

STABBED WOMAN DIES IN STREET



AIRMAN Noah Moore comforts Mrs. Theresa Killium, 38, after finding her unconscious on the street outside her South End, Boston, home. Stabbed several times, she died shortly after arrival at a hospital. Police sent out a state-wide alarm for a 30-year-old man suspected of the knife-slaying. (International Soundphoto)

Meeting Slated To Discuss Area Drainage Projects

By ROY R. BECK
Soil Conservation Service

Recent heavy rains throughout Haywood County have created quite a bit of interest in drainage of bottom lands. Most interest has been in community drainage projects for enlarging, straightening and deepening main stream channels.

Brack James, chairman of Upper Crabtree CDP, is scheduling a meeting for the people of that valley to discuss the possibility of work on Upper Crabtree Creek and to consider applying to their district supervisors for technical help in solving their land drainage problem.

When such a request is made by a group of landowners and approved by the Soil Supervisors, technicians of the Soil Conservation Service make an engineering survey, drainage design, cost estimate and a survey of lands benefited by the proposed drainage improvements. This information is then presented to the group of landowners at a second meeting.

Under the drainage laws of North Carolina, owners of land benefited by drainage works of improvement bear the cost of such improvements on the basis of benefits received.

Actual organization by a group to carry out a community drainage project can be done by any one of three methods.

1. By mutual consent, the landowners can agree amongst themselves what proportion of the total cost each will pay. When such agreement is reached, the funds equal to the estimated total cost of the project is deposited in a special account, the excavation work is done and the contractor is paid from the deposited funds.

By organizing a drainage company, landowners can sell stock to the various landowners affected. Again, the amount of stock is based on benefits to be received. When

all landowners have purchased stock in the company, the officers are empowered to carry out drainage works of improvement with the approval of a majority of the landowners. This method requires the services of a lawyer and has the advantage of providing a continuing organization for maintaining drainage improvements.

By organizing a drainage district, landowners interested in carrying out large drainage projects can get the job done, even though some of their group are not in favor of the project. They organize the district by petition and referendum. The officers are empowered to carry out drainage works of improvements when the persons owning 61 per cent or more of the land benefited, vote favorable on any project.

Assessments are based on recommendations of a three-man committee of disinterested landowners living in other parts of the county who are appointed by the clerk of court. Landowners retain the right to petition first, the clerk of court, and then the superior court, for adjustments.

Payment for drainage work carried out by a drainage district is made by selling bonds maturing over an eleven year period. If necessary, payment from any landowner can be obtained by the Drainage District first securing a judgment against the land. Drainage Districts require the service of a lawyer, must hire a licensed drainage engineer to supervise works of improvement, and have power to condemn rights of ways and make payment therefor. For these and other reasons drainage districts are seldom organized for watersheds of less than 10,000 acres.

There is a special weather-proof lead pencil for marking storm windows and screens.

Improved Road Now Leads To Kilmer Memorial Forest

Joyce Kilmer Forest, a 3,800-acre tract of wilderness deep in the North Carolina mountain country, is newly accessible by improved motor road as it nears the 20th anniversary of its dedication as a memorial to the man who wrote the immortal poem "Trees".

The Memorial Forest, one of the few remaining examples of the vast hardwood forests which covered the Southern Appalachians centuries ago, was dedicated on July 30, 1936, 18th anniversary of Sergeant Kilmer's death in France during World War I. It lies within Nantahala National Forest southwest of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and is preserved in its primitive and natural state.

An improved motor road around Lake Santeetlah from Robbinsville, North Carolina and Highway 129 is the approach route to the Memorial Forest. The short spur road from this route to the forest entrance was rebuilt last year. The spur road terminates in a cool glade where there is a parking and picnic area. From the glade, a marked hiking trail leads into the forest. Beside the trail stands a section of tree trunk bearing a plaque with Kilmer's poem "Trees" lettered on it. Further along the trail, beneath the giant trees in Poplar Cove, there is a bronze plaque bearing the inscription:

Joyce Kilmer
165th Infantry—Rainbow Division
Soldier and Poet
Author of "Trees"
Born in New Brunswick, N. J.
December 6, 1896
Killed in action in France
July 30, 1918

Movement for the memorial was initiated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars at their 1934 encampment, which petitioned the Federal Government to set aside a fitting area of trees to stand for all time as a living memorial to the soldier-poet.

Giant poplars, hemlocks, oaks, sycamores, basswoods, beech and other varieties of trees grow in the forest. Some of them are 80 inches in diameter and more than 150 feet tall. Native ferns, mosses, flowers and shrubs grow on the forest floor.

At any season, the forest gives visitors the feeling of exploring a true wilderness, because of a five-minute walk into it seems to take them miles from civilization and years back into history.

It is very quiet in the forest, and always cool, even in mid-summer. The light is dim, since only a little sun filters through the thick branches overhead. In the spring, wildflowers and blossoming shrubs line the forest trails and stream banks. In autumn, the light through the brilliant foliage is like that through stained-glass windows.

Some 20 miles of marked hiking trails through the marvelous and varied vegetation, along cool streams, and up over bold peaks and ridges of 5,000 feet or more.

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